

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /122 W

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R 261625Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4041

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

USNMR SHAPE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MAAR, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH ATTITUDE TOWARD NATO

1. A RESPECTABLE DUTCH PUBLIC OPINION POLL HAS  
REVEALED THAT A LARGE MAJORITY OF DUTCHMEN FAVOR  
CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP IN NATO. IN POLL CONDUCTED AMONG  
DUTCH VOTERS BY NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC OPINION  
(NIPO), 76 PERCENT FAVORED CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP, NINE  
PERCENT FAVORED WITHDRAWAL AND 12 PERCENT EXPRESSED NO  
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OPINION. 760 INDIVIDUALS WERE POLLED. A SIMILAR POLL

IN 1969 SHOWED 65 PERCENT FOR CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP,  
13 PERCENT AGAINST, AND 22 PERCENT NO OPINION.

2. WHILE SUPPORT AMONG DUTCH POPULACE FOR NATO NOT,  
IN ITSELF, SURPRISING, STRONG SUPPORT FROM LABOR PARTY  
(PVDA) AND RADICAL PARTY (PPR) VOTERS WAS. PVDA  
SUPPORTERS FAVORED NETHERLANDS CONTINUING NATO MEMBERSHIP  
BY WIDE MARGIN--76 PERCENT FOR AND ONLY 12 PERCENT  
AGAINST. RADICAL PARTY VOTERS SPLIT 61-39 IN FAVOR OF  
CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP. VOTE OF PPR SUPPORTERS ESPECIALLY  
NOTEWORTHY AS IT CAME ON HEELS OF RECENT DECISION BY  
SPECIAL PARTY CONGRESS FAVORING DUTCH WITHDRAWAL.

3. SUPPORTERS OF CENTER-RIGHT PARTIES FAVORED CONTINUED  
DUTCH MEMBERSHIP IN THE ALLIANCE AS FOLLOWS: LIBERALS  
92 PERCENT; CHRISTIAN HISTORICAL UNION 87 PERCENT;  
ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY PARTY 81 PERCENT; AND CATHOLIC  
PEOPLES' PARTY 77 PERCENT.

4. WHILE ONE MEMBER (VAN GORKUM) OF THE PPR FACTION IN  
THE SECOND CHAMBER HAS COMMENTED THAT THE SUPPORT FOR  
CONTINUED NATO MEMBERSHIP BY VOTERS OF HIS PARTY WOULD  
NOT CAUSE THE PARTY CONGRESS TO REVERSE ITS DECISION  
FAVORING WITHDRAWAL, THE RESULTS OF THE POLL CAN BE  
EXPECTED TO HAVE SOME EFFECT ON "PROGRESSIVE" PARTIES.

5. THE PVDA, THE LARGEST PARTY IN THE CURRENT DUTCH  
LEFT-CENTER COALITION GOVERNMENT, HAS SCHEDULED A FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS CONGRESS FOR APRIL 1975, WITH ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL  
SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION SLATED TO BE CONTINUED DUTCH  
PARTICIPATION IN NATO.  
TANGUY

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NNN

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